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Soviet buildup outlined

By Don Waters
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate held a secret session yesterday to hear two colleagues outline what the Pentagon says is an unrelenting military buildup by the Soviet Union.

The "threat briefing" by Sen. John R. Tower (R., Texas), the Armed Services Committee chairman, and Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (R., Ariz.), who is chairman of the Intelligence Committee, was the first closed session of the Senate in more than two years.

It came as the Senate prepared to begin full-scale debate on legislation that would authorize a record \$180.3 billion for Defense Department procurement, research, operations and maintenance and civil defense programs for fiscal 1983, which begins Oct. 1.

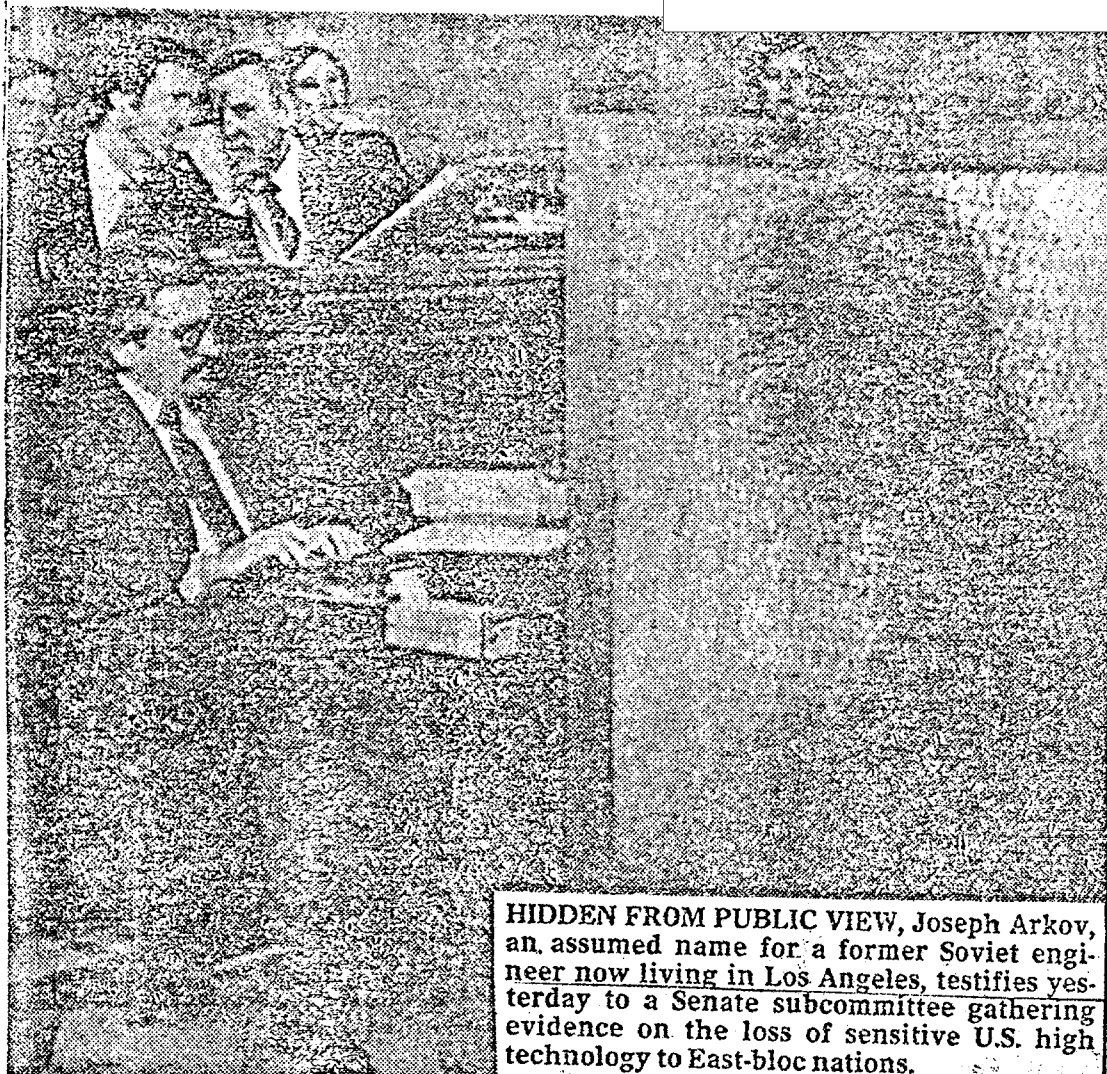
The defense bill, \$50 billion larger than its fiscal 1982 counterpart, is being targeted for cuts by members of Congress struggling to find ways to reduce a projected budget deficit of more than \$100 billion.

But in an opening statement on the measure late Monday, Tower said the briefing "should help to put this authorization request into perspective."

Goldwater concurred, saying that as part of the buildup, the Soviets are producing five times as many tanks and four times as many tactical aircraft as the United States each year.

Before the classified session began, police cleared the public and press galleries overlooking the floor and the adjoining cloakrooms and pressroom.

Admission to the top-secret briefing was by code word. Besides senators, 13 staff aides, three officials of the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency and a stenographer were cleared to attend the session.



HIDDEN FROM PUBLIC VIEW, Joseph Arkov, an, assumed name for a former Soviet engineer now living in Los Angeles, testifies yesterday to a Senate subcommittee gathering evidence on the loss of sensitive U.S. high technology to East-bloc nations.

United Press International

The Pentagon officials have given two-hour briefings on the Soviet buildup to some Senate and House members this year. But several defense-minded senators said the special session was needed to give all members a chance to be filled in.

There also will be a briefing this

morning at a closed meeting of House Republicans.

The closed session was the first the Senate has held since Feb. 1, 1980, when military manpower problems were discussed. In all, there have been 23 secret sessions in the last nine years.